

**COLONEL JOHN CHARLTON  
COMMANDER  
1ST BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM**



Colonel John Charlton was commissioned as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Washington State University in 1984.

He served as a Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer in the 7th Infantry Division (Light) and as a Platoon Leader in the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. He then served as a Company Commander in the 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis Washington.

Following company command, Colonel Charlton was assigned as an observer/controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center and was the Aide de Camp for the Commanding General, U.S. Forces, Haiti. Colonel Charlton then served in Germany where he was the Division Plans Officer for the 1st Infantry Division; Battalion S3 for 1st Battalion 18th Infantry; and the Brigade Executive Officer for 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.

Upon returning to the United States, Colonel Charlton served as the Chief of Infantry Proponency at the U.S. Army Infantry School. Colonel Charlton assumed command of 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry on July 5, 2002 in Kuwait and led Task Force 1-15 Infantry through a six-month Operation Desert Spring deployment, followed immediately by combat operations during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Colonel Charlton continued to serve with the 3rd Infantry Division as the G3 during its conversion to a modular force and its most recent combat deployment to Iraq.

His schools include the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Course, Ranger, Airborne, Air Assault, Jumpmaster, CAS3, the Army Command and General Staff College, the Army School of Advanced Military Studies and the Army War College.

Colonel Charlton's awards and decorations include the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with four oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (with six oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with one oak leaf cluster), the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the Expert Infantryman's Badge.